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TO: **Economic Support Supervisors
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Training Staff
Child Care Coordinators
W-2 Agencies**

FROM: Amy Mendel-Clemens
Communications Section
Bureau of Health Care Eligibility

BHCE/BWP OPERATIONS MEMO

No.: 03-12

Date: 02/27/2003

Non W-2 ☒ W-2 ☐ CC ☐

PRIORITY: HIGH

SUBJECT: **Federal Poverty Level Changes for Wisconsin Works (W-2), Community Reinvestment (CR), and Wisconsin Shares (Child Care Subsidy) Program**

CROSS REFERENCE: Child Day Care Manual
W-2 Manual
CR Guide

EFFECTIVE DATE: April 1, 2003

PURPOSE

This memo:

1. Alerts you to changes in the 2003 Federal Poverty Level (FPL) for Wisconsin Works (W-2) cash assistance, Community Reinvestment (CR) and Wisconsin Shares (the child care subsidy program).
2. Provides information on the impact on the child care subsidy applicants and recipients.
3. Includes the revised W-2 FPL table.

The new 2003 Child Care CoPay Schedule is available on the internet at:

<http://www.dwd.state.wi.us/dws/programs/childcare/wishares/default.htm>

For child care purposes, there is a mass change for child care eligibility on March 8, 2003 and a separate mass change for current and future authorizations in the Child Care Payment System on March 29, 2003.

BACKGROUND

Each year the federal government adjusts the FPLs. As a result of the annual FPL changes, income limits for W-2 cash assistance, child care eligibility, and the income ranges that are used to determine the family copayment for child care authorizations change.

Wisconsin Works

The effective date for the income limits for W-2 cash assistance (115% FPL) is April 1, 2003.

Community Reinvestment

To determine financial eligibility for the CR program (200% FPL) refer to the updated FPL table. Effective date is April 1, 2003.

Group	Annual	Monthly	Monthly	Monthly	Group	Annual	Monthly	Monthly	Monthly
Size	Amounts	100%	115%	200%	Size	Amounts	100%	115%	200%
		FPL	FPL	FPL			FPL	FPL	FPL
1	\$8,980	\$748.33	\$861	\$1,496.67	6	\$24,680	2,056.67	\$2,365	\$4,113.33
2	\$12,120	\$1,010.00	\$1,162	\$2,020.00	7	\$27,820	2,318.33	\$2,666	\$4,636.67
3	\$15,260	\$1,271.67	\$1,462	\$2,543.33	8	\$30,960	2,580.00	\$2,967	\$5,160.00
4	\$18,400	\$1,533.33	\$1,763	\$3,066.67	9	\$34,100	2,841.67	\$3,268	\$5,683.33
5	\$21,540	\$1,795.00	\$2,064	\$3,590.00	10	\$37,240	3,103.33	\$3,569	\$6,206.67
					Each Added Person	\$3,140	\$261.37	\$301	\$523.33

Child Care

The effective date of the new income limits established in the memo for all new child care subsidy applicants is April 1, 2003. Applications entered in CARES after the March 8, 2003 mass change should use these new FPL income limits in CARES table TCCS for April 1, 2003.

All ongoing child care cases, including those that are closing March 31, 2003, in the CARES system will be run in the annual mass change for eligibility March 8, 2003. All child care cases will have their income updated to a new 2003 FPL percentage. Cases that are closing March 31, 2003, for excess income may remain eligible for child care as a result of the 2003 FPL changes.

Child care authorizations will also go through a mass change on the weekend of March 29, 2003, that will split all authorizations, and recalculate the family copay, using the new income ranges as displayed in table TCFP, and the new copays as displayed on table TCCP.

Child Care Authorizations

All current and future authorizations that are created in the child care payment system as of March 29, 2003, will be included in the child care authorization mass change. All authorizations with an end date after March 29, will be split with the new authorization beginning March 30, or April 13. If family income has not changed since the current authorizations were created the new, increased FPL income ranges may decrease the family copay, or not change the family copay at all. However, even if the copay does not change, and the provider payment does not change, the authorization will split, and notices will be generated. If the mass change reduces the family copay, therefore, increasing the provider payment, the begin date of the new authorizations will be March 30.

Some authorizations will begin April 13, because the provider payment will decrease as a result of the mass change. This can happen because the new authorizations will use the most current family income for March, as well as the number of children in care, and the type of care chosen by the family to determine the family copay. Income changes in CARES that have not been reflected in current authorizations will be reflected in the new authorizations created by the mass change. So, it is possible that the copay will increase due to income changes in spite of the FPL changes. When this happens the begin date of the new authorization will be April 13, 2003. Notices will be generated to reflect the decreased payment to the provider also.

Also, all authorizations that are created after March 29, 2003, with a begin date of March 30, or later will use the new income ranges to determine the family copay. However, if the begin date of authorizations created after the mass change is March 23, or earlier, the retro authorization will split. One authorization will use the 2002 FPL income ranges and copayment amounts, and end March 29, and the other authorization will begin March 30, and use the 2003 FPL income ranges and copayment amounts.

Family and Provider Notices

All child care cases will go through the eligibility mass change, but ongoing approval notices (AEAX) will not be generated for child care cases that were open in March. These notices are not generated because the eligibility status of the family has not changed.

Family authorization notices will be sent out to all families with children that have current and future authorizations because they will be included in the authorization mass change. This means that an authorization end notice and a new authorization notice will be generated for each family and mailed together on March 31.

Provider notices will be similar to the notices that were generated when the county maximum rates changed for 2003. This format lists all children who are authorized to that provider location. When there is no change in the provider payment rate an asterisk will appear next to the child's name. An explanation that the asterisk indicates no payment rate change will be displayed at the bottom of this notice. These notices to providers will not display on the provider's notice history (CNHS), instead they can be viewed as an EOS report. The report name and number is FPL Auth Mass Change Notice CC40 (displays each provider notice), and CC41 (lists providers who received the notice).

For a detailed Child Care Co-Payment Schedule for Licensed and Certified Care see the attached spreadsheet.

CARES

The CARES income limit tables (TWWS, TCCS), used to determine W-2 and child care eligibility, will be updated with an effective date of April 1, 2003. The child care income range table (TCFP) and the child care copay table (TCCP), used to determine the family copay for child care authorizations, will also be updated with an effective date of March 30, 2003.

CONTACTS

Regional Area Administrator's Office, or

BHCE CARES Information & Problem Resolution Center

Email: carpolcc@dwd.state.wi.us
Telephone: (608) 261-6317 (Option #1)
Fax: (608) 266-8358

Note: Email contacts are preferred. Thank you.

NOTE ➤

	Child Care Co-Payment Schedule for Licensed and Certified Care																		
Look down the column of the appropriate family size until you find the gross family monthly income level at or just less than the family income. Look to the right to find the appropriate co-payment by family and type of care.																			
	[-----Gross Monthly Family Income-----]									WEEKLY LICENSED CARE CO-PAY AMOUNT					WEEKLY CERTIFIED CARE CO-PAY AMOUNT				
				FAMILY SIZE						CHILDREN IN SUBSIDIZED CARE:					CHILDREN IN SUBSIDIZED CARE:				
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10 or more	1	2	3	4	5 or more	1	2	3	4	5 or more
70% FPL	\$707	\$890	\$1,073	\$1,257	\$1,440	\$1,623	\$1,806	\$1,989	\$2,172	4	8	12	15	20	2	6	9	11	14
75% FPL	\$758	\$954	\$1,150	\$1,346	\$1,543	\$1,739	\$1,935	\$2,131	\$2,328	4	10	14	19	23	3	7	10	13	15
80% FPL	\$808	\$1,017	\$1,227	\$1,436	\$1,645	\$1,855	\$2,064	\$2,273	\$2,483	7	11	15	21	26	5	8	11	16	18
85% FPL	\$859	\$1,081	\$1,303	\$1,526	\$1,748	\$1,971	\$2,193	\$2,415	\$2,638	10	14	19	23	29	7	10	13	16	20
90% FPL	\$909	\$1,145	\$1,380	\$1,616	\$1,851	\$2,087	\$2,322	\$2,558	\$2,793	11	18	23	29	34	8	12	15	20	25
95% FPL	\$960	\$1,208	\$1,457	\$1,705	\$1,954	\$2,202	\$2,451	\$2,700	\$2,948	14	21	29	35	42	10	15	20	25	29
100% FPL	\$1,010	\$1,272	\$1,533	\$1,795	\$2,057	\$2,318	\$2,580	\$2,842	\$3,103	16	23	30	38	44	11	15	21	27	31
105% FPL	\$1,061	\$1,335	\$1,610	\$1,885	\$2,160	\$2,434	\$2,709	\$2,984	\$3,259	19	25	33	40	47	13	18	23	28	34
110% FPL	\$1,111	\$1,399	\$1,687	\$1,975	\$2,262	\$2,550	\$2,838	\$3,126	\$3,414	21	29	35	42	49	15	20	24	29	35
115% FPL	\$1,162	\$1,462	\$1,763	\$2,064	\$2,365	\$2,666	\$2,967	\$3,268	\$3,569	23	30	38	45	51	16	21	27	31	37
120% FPL	\$1,212	\$1,526	\$1,840	\$2,154	\$2,468	\$2,782	\$3,096	\$3,410	\$3,724	25	33	40	47	55	18	23	28	34	38
125% FPL	\$1,263	\$1,590	\$1,917	\$2,244	\$2,571	\$2,898	\$3,225	\$3,552	\$3,879	29	34	42	49	56	20	24	29	34	39
130% FPL	\$1,313	\$1,653	\$1,993	\$2,334	\$2,674	\$3,014	\$3,354	\$3,694	\$4,034	30	39	47	55	63	21	27	33	38	45
135% FPL	\$1,364	\$1,717	\$2,070	\$2,423	\$2,777	\$3,130	\$3,483	\$3,836	\$4,190	33	42	51	61	70	23	29	37	42	49
140% FPL	\$1,414	\$1,780	\$2,147	\$2,513	\$2,879	\$3,246	\$3,612	\$3,978	\$4,345	34	44	54	63	74	24	31	38	44	51
145% FPL	\$1,465	\$1,844	\$2,223	\$2,603	\$2,982	\$3,362	\$3,741	\$4,120	\$4,500	37	47	55	65	75	27	33	39	47	52
150% FPL	\$1,515	\$1,908	\$2,300	\$2,693	\$3,085	\$3,478	\$3,870	\$4,263	\$4,655	40	49	59	68	78	27	34	41	48	55
155% FPL	\$1,566	\$1,971	\$2,377	\$2,782	\$3,188	\$3,593	\$3,999	\$4,405	\$4,810	42	51	61	70	80	29	37	42	49	56
160% FPL	\$1,616	\$2,035	\$2,453	\$2,872	\$3,291	\$3,709	\$4,128	\$4,547	\$4,965	44	54	63	73	83	31	38	45	51	58
165% FPL	\$1,667	\$2,098	\$2,530	\$2,962	\$3,394	\$3,825	\$4,257	\$4,689	\$5,121	45	56	65	74	84	32	39	46	52	59
170% FPL	\$1,717	\$2,162	\$2,607	\$3,052	\$3,496	\$3,941	\$4,386	\$4,831	\$5,276	46	59	68	78	87	33	41	48	55	60
175% FPL	\$1,768	\$2,225	\$2,683	\$3,141	\$3,599	\$4,057	\$4,515	\$4,973	\$5,431	48	60	70	80	89	33	42	49	56	62
180% FPL	\$1,818	\$2,289	\$2,760	\$3,231	\$3,702	\$4,173	\$4,644	\$5,115	\$5,586	50	62	73	83	91	34	44	51	58	65

	[-----Gross Monthly Family Income-----]									WEEKLY LICENSED CARE CO-PAY AMOUNT					WEEKLY CERTIFIED CARE CO-PAY AMOUNT				
	FAMILY SIZE									CHILDREN IN SUBSIDIZED CARE:					CHILDREN IN SUBSIDIZED CARE:				
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10 or more	1	2	3	4	5 or more	1	2	3	4	5 or more
185% FPL	\$1,869	\$2,353	\$2,837	\$3,321	\$3,805	\$4,289	\$4,773	\$5,257	\$5,741	51	64	75	84	94	35	47	52	59	65
	-----185% of the Federal Poverty Level-----																		
190% FPL	\$1,919	\$2,416	\$2,913	\$3,411	\$3,908	\$4,405	\$4,902	\$5,399	\$5,896	52	65	78	86	95	37	48	54	60	68
195% FPL	\$1,970	\$2,480	\$2,990	\$3,500	\$4,011	\$4,521	\$5,031	\$5,541	\$6,052	54	67	80	89	99	38	49	56	63	69
200% FPL	\$2,020	\$2,543	\$3,067	\$3,590	\$4,113	\$4,637	\$5,160	\$5,683	\$6,207	55	69	82	91	100	39	51	58	64	70
	<<<----- +200% of the Federal Poverty Level ----->>>																		

NOTE: The copayment rate for teen parents who are not Learnfare participants is minimum copay and is found by selecting the lowest income line (70%) FPL and then finding the copayment listed, under either licensed care or certified care, for the appropriate number of children. Parents who have left a W-2 employment position for unsubsidized work also qualify for the minimum coapy for one month. Families with children who are authorized for 20 hours or less are subject to one half of their share of the family copay listed above for those children. No copay is required for parents who participate in Learnfare or Food Stamp Employment and Training. Foster parents do not have a copayment responsibility for the foster children in their care. Kinship care relatives caring for a child under a court order do not have a copayment responsibility. Kinship care relatives caring for a child without a court order pay the minimum copay, unless they are receiving a child care subsidy for another child who is subject to a copayment greater than the minimum copay.